

The Babylon Spirit

The Rise and Fall

“The Spirit clearly says, some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.” 1 Timothy 4:1

The Christian’s kingdom is not _____ this world, it is _____ this world from heaven.

If we think that political or economic power will usher in Christ’s Kingdom, we have been deceived.

What ushers in the Kingdom of God is the _____ to the ends of the earth!

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:14

Revelation 17 and 18 is central to all of John’s revelation!

It’s a step-by-step victory over The Babylon spirit, “the beast” (Satan’s Messiah and his earthly kingdom.

1. Revelation 17 – The religious system -- Babylon is judged
2. Revelation 18 – the political and economic system fall victim
3. Revelation 19: 7-8 – The Lord returns to earth and judges Satan, the beast, the false prophet and establishes His kingdom.

Revelation Chapter 17 -- The Rise of the Babylon Spirit

Verse 1

In _____ age there has been a _____ who has persecuted God’s people – this will culminate in the last days in a worldwide apostate religious system.

It may be said that Babylon represents the _____ of the world apart from God. Babylon is the _____ of all these historical prostitutes.

The title of the Babylon spirit, (prostitute or harlot), is used metaphorically to describe how much of the world sold itself for unworthy purposes – substituting God for idol worship and fleshly passions.

What are the *characteristics* of the Babylon spirit?

- Royal _____ and _____ combined with prosperity, overabundance, and luxury
- Self-trust or _____
- _____ and _____ especially against God’s people
- Oppression and _____
- Idolatry

Verse 2

Earth's Kings (rulers) / inhabitants committing adulteries -- peoples of the earth have become drunk with abundance, power, pride, violence, and especially false worship.

Verse 3-4

Her costly and attractive attire suggests the prostitute's outward beauty and attraction.

Like Satan, the Golden cup filled with wine alludes to Jeremiah's description of Babylon's world-wide influence of Idolatry (Jeremiah 51:7). Her cup is filled with "abominable things" – associated with idolatry.

"Idolatry is the paying for divine honor to any created things: ascription of divine power to natural agencies. Worship of stones, trees, rivers, animals, sun moon, stars, and forces of nature. Hero worship of deceased ancestors. Worship of idealism, such as justice, worship of an image or symbol..." -- Unger Bible Dictionary

Verse 5

The women's _____, written on her forehead, shows that in spite of all her royal glamour she is nothing but a _____.

The title is a divine mystery in that she is the fountain head, the reservoir, the womb that bears all the individual cases of historical resistance to God's will on earth.

Verse 6

She is also the source of the _____ of the followers of Jesus.

Verses 7-18

The beast is the monster from the Abyss. (v.8) This is the _____ of Christ the Messiah.

Note, that the woman (on the beast) must not be _____ from the beast that carries her.

However, when the prophecies are filled an amazing thing will happen! The prostitute will be destroyed by the very system that carried her. Rev.17:15-16

Satan and the beast (the antichrist) will use the _____ to accomplish their own ends (world power), but then do away with the prostitute system and _____ his own religious system for 3 ½ years. The beast will be worshiped as the Messiah – seated on Christ's throne.

Revelation Chapter 18 - The Fall of the Babylon Spirit

When Babylon falls, aspects of the world system (politics and economics) fall as well.

Verses 1-3

The Babylon system has _____ the whole world. It catered to those who were lovers of _____ more than lovers of God. 2 Timothy 3:4b-5

The love of pleasures and possessions is but an insidious form of _____. Demonic in their origin and destructive in its outcome.

Verses 4-8

Here we hear the voice of _____. The church today is commanded to separate itself from that which is ungodly. God's call for all of his people to "Come out of her!" **Romans 16:17-18**

Verses 9-19

We see the great collapse of the Babylon spirit that supported the religious, economic and political system of the world. Suddenly it collapsed in an _____! Great judgment – total destruction!

Loud _____ is coming from those of personal loss. _____ and _____ to God coming from heaven!

Babylon never to rise again! The joy in this passage is centered on God's _____ judgment!

From there the beast establishes a new worship system that places him on the throne as Messiah – the antichrist now has all of Satan's power given to him.

Now, God destroys the economic and political system of the Beast whereby the Babylon spirit had laid the groundwork. This was with sudden judgment!

The true church is a _____, but the false religious system is a "prostitute" who has _____ the _____ and prostituted herself for personal gain.

All that remains is for Jesus Christ to come from heaven and personally meet and defeat the beast and his armies. This He will do and then establish his righteous kingdom on earth. **Revelation 19: 6b - 8**

The important Question is: Are we citizens of _____ or citizens of _____?

A quote from a Pastor friend:

There is much reason to hope. If we see ourselves dwelling in Babylon rather than Jerusalem perhaps, we will follow the strategies of Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Easter. Why not bless the nation we inhabit rather than attempting to force our values, "dietary laws" religious rights and moral behavior onto them. The Gospel is not about behavior modification but new hearts and renewed minds. Nations, cities, and neighborhoods are not fundamentally changed by democracy or a moral majority. A few people who believe God can change a society. Let's be salt and light and give people a reason to embrace the Kingdom of God.

We have the promises and resources. Otherwise, why bother praying "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." The Kingdom is not leaving earth and going to heaven. It is coming from heaven to earth. Our Kingdom is not "from" this world it is "to" this world from heaven. The government is upon His shoulders. Believing that empowers and activates us because His government is not just for us but through us.

-- John Cooke

Former Pastor of the Christian and Missionary Alliance

"Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; Let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy. Revelation 22:11